



OAKNet

<http://www.co.oakland.mi.us>

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Overview

The OAKNet project was a major renovation of Oakland County's information infrastructure, which was started in 1999 and completed in 2001. OAKNet provides the means to deliver network based services including e-mail, file sharing, Internet access, mainframe access, web services, video services, encapsulated voice transport, and County hosted application services. Prior to the installation of OAKNet, access to information systems outside Oakland County offices was limited to services delivered over proprietary mainframe infrastructure. This resulted in a lack of efficient information sharing, as well as the inability to deploy information systems on a wide-scale basis.

OAKNet serves to bring the County, its municipalities and its citizens into the "Internet Age", ensuring that the technological demands of the future are met. It is based on open standards and off-the-shelf cutting edge technology that takes advantage of technological breakthroughs as they occur.

The heart of the project is the "wiring" of fiber optic cable to all areas of the County. Fiber optic cable is prized for its ability to transmit enormous amounts of data over long distances at the speed of light. One strand of fiber has the bandwidth, or capacity, to transmit all of the data needed for the County. Oakland County is running multiple strands of fiber for the project.

Where we were:

Prior to 1999:

- Proprietary mainframe services over low speed (56Kbps) leased lines
- Six County offices connected by 1.5Mbps leased lines
- Distributed servers due to bandwidth limitations
- No open applications architecture

Where we are going:

- The future OAKNet includes the expansion of the existing services including additional web information services on behalf of the municipalities.
- Expansion of the CLEMIS consortium will continue to add additional public safety to the law enforcement customer base.
- The OAKNet fiber infrastructure can support additional upgrades to higher bandwidths including 10Gbps infrastructure as the technology matures.